



Chris Wood
President & CEO

April 14, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
USEPA Headquarters
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

On behalf of the Trout Unlimited's 160,000 members, I am writing to request a meeting with you to discuss several issues of mutual importance to Trout Unlimited and EPA.

We believe that EPA's most important job is to lead the Nation to improve the quality of the Nation's water, working well with state, local and conservation groups in partnership to do so. I am sure you agree that there remains a lot of work to do to clean up the Nation's waterways.

TU's mission is to conserve, protect and restore America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. Founded in 1959, TU has long supported the Clean Water Act as the backbone of the Nation's water quality efforts. Our local chapters and state councils have used the Clean Water Act to protect and restore their local home waters. As TU has evolved, we have added professional staff who have worked with EPA resources, such as its Section 319 nonpoint source funds, and its Small Watershed program funds. Using modest EPA funds, we have leveraged additional funds to restore streams and rivers across the U.S., from brook trout streams in the upper Potomac in West Virginia to cutthroat streams in the upper Colorado River in Colorado. In short we have enjoyed a long and successful partnership with EPA.

We would like to continue that partnership and take advantage of opportunities provided by the Trump Administration and Congress, such as cleaning streams and rivers polluted by abandoned coal and hardrock mine waste, and upgrading the Nation's water infrastructure. However, these efforts are threatened by the Trump Administration's proposed budget cuts and the initiative to repeal and replace the Clean Water Rule. We would deeply appreciate the chance to have a good discussion with you about the opportunities and risks that lie ahead of us.

Fishing, and Trout Unlimited, would not exist without the bountiful water resources of the United States. As President Teddy Roosevelt urged us to do, we seek to work with EPA to ensure that these waters are in better condition tomorrow than they are today.

We would like to meet with you as soon as possible to begin a discussion on how we accomplish these objectives. My assistant, Liz Thompson, will be reaching out to your scheduler to schedule a meeting. We thank you in advance for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A mission to conserve, protect, & restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

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